Mimulus Memo

California Native Plant Society
KERN CHAPTER

SEPTEMBER 2022

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EVENTS

SEPTEMBER
10, 11, 12 – Campout at Horse Meadow

13 & 20 – "Ditch Your Lawn" Contact *Monica Tudor*

18 to 30 – On-line Plant Sale website activated

16 – Meeting 6:00 – 8:30 pm (see **Upcoming Events**, p. 5)

OCTOBER

15 – Plant Sale Pick-up
20 – Meeting 6 – 8:30pm

NOVEMBER
17 – Meeting 6 – 8:30 pm

Botanizing on Mt. Pinos: A Photo Essay

by Nancy Nies

WHETHER OR NOT YOU'VE EVER BEEN UP THE CHULA VISTA trail to the top of Mt. Pinos, there are several compelling reasons to do the hike, which can be enjoyed over and over. When Bakersfield's summer temperatures reach the triple digits, the trail remains an inviting, comfortable thirty degrees cooler. The trailhead (el. 8,300) is a 1 1/2-hour drive from Bakersfield; the trail climbs another 547 feet to the summit of Mt. Pinos, and the hike is a moderate four-mile round trip. If you're lucky enough to be able to go on a weekday, you'll find few, if any, other people there. The trail provides hikers with both shady, forested areas and sunny, open meadows, and a reward for reaching the summit — spectacular views to the west and north. Last but not least, and despite years of drought, the trail offers varying wildflower displays from spring to fall.

ABOVE: Expanse of *Castilleja* sp. (**paintbrush**) along Chula Vista trail, 18 June 2020. –10 July 2020. RIGHT: Close-up

Photo by Nancy Nies

During the summer of 2020, we did the Mt. Pinos hike four times at three-week intervals, enjoying different wildflowers each time. We made our first trip that summer on **June 18**, when it was still early spring at that elevation. Lupine in varying shades of purple lined much of the road to the trailhead. In the meadow just below the parking area, the *Iris missouriensis* (**western blue flag**) were still in the bud and the *Ribes cereum var. cereum* (**wax currant**) bushes along the trail were sporting their pink flowers. In the trail's dry, open areas, we noted large

> No two summers – in fact, no two visits – are alike on Mt. Pinos.

Left to right: Close-up of hillside of *Phlox astromontana (*diffuse spreading phlox) – 18 June 2020; *Astragalus purshii* (hairy-pod milk vetch), summit of Mt. Pinos – 18 June 2020; *Iris missouriensis* (western blue flag), meadow at Chula Vista trailhead – 10 July 2020.

expanses of *Castilleja spp.* (**paintbrush**) and *Phlox astromontana* (**diffuse spreading phlox**). In the shade of the conifer forest, the early bloomers included colonies of the tiny *Collinsia callosa* (**desert mountains blue-eyed Mary**) and the yellow-petaled *Viola pinetorum* (**mountain violet**). On the open summit, we found *Lewisia rediviva* (**bitterroot**), *Astragalus purshii* (**hairy-pod milk vetch**), and *Lupinus breweri* (**Brewer's lupine**).

By the time we returned on **July 10**, the *Iris missouriensis* were blooming in the trailhead meadow. As we made our way up the mountain, we were excited to find, now gracing the trailside, the various lavenders and blues of *Calochortus invenustus* (**plain mariposa lily**) and *Penstemon speciosus* (**showy blue penstemon**). *Achillea millefolium* (**common yarrow**) was now blooming in abundance, often together with **paintbrush**. The vibrant reds of *Sarcodes sanguinea* (**Sierra snow plant)** and several species of *Castilleja* (**paintbrush**), along with the bright yellows of *Erysimum capitatum* (**western wallflower**) and *Ericameria nauseosa* (**rubber rabbitbrush**), were particularly eye-catching.

When we next visited, on **July 31**, the irises had faded but we found *Erythranthe guttata* (**seep monkeyflower**) and *Veratrum californicum* (**corn lily**) in bloom in the marshy portion of the iris meadow. At the southern edge of the meadow, there were other discoveries for us to make — vigorous-looking colonies of **yellow cinquefoil** and **lavender lupine**. Farther up the trail, in addition to the **paintbrush**, **rabbitbrush** and **mariposa lilies** we'd seen the last

Left to right: *Calochortus invenustus* (plain mariposa lily), Chula Vista trail – 10 July 2020; *Penstemon speciosus* (showy blue penstemon), Chula Vista trail, 10 July 2020; *Sarcodes sanguinea* (Sierra snow plant), Chula Vista Trail – 10 July 2020; *Drymocallis glandulosa* (sticky cinquefoil), edge of iris meadow, Chula Vista trailhead, Mt. Pinos – 31 July 2020.

Left to right: *Lupinus* sp. (lupine), edge of iris meadow, Chula Vista trailhead, Mt. Pinos – 31 July 2020; *Penstemon labrosus* (southern scarlet penstemon), Chula Vista trail, Mt. Pinos – 31 July 2020; *Eriogonum kennedyi* var. *alpigenum* (Kennedy's buckwheat), near summit of Mt. Pinos – 31 July 2020.

time, new flowers had appeared since our previous visit — a large area of bright-red *Penstemon labrosus* and patches of *Eriogonum kennedyi* var. *alpigenum* (**Kennedy's buckwheat**), its mounds of rose-colored flowers visible from afar.

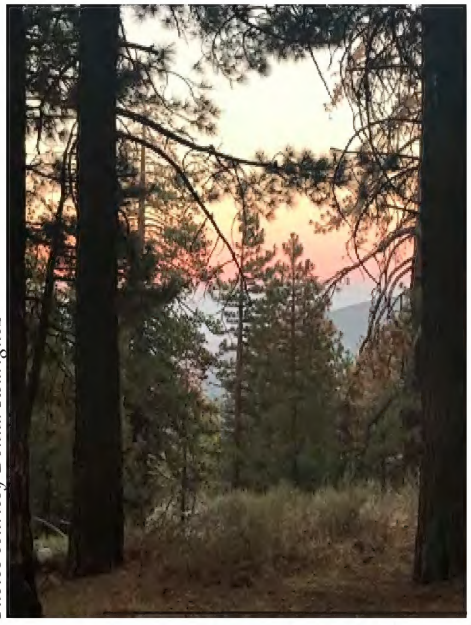
On **August 19**, the date of our fourth and final visit of 2020, the **red paintbrush** and **penstemon** were still in bloom, but we also witnessed some changes. The **currant bushes** now bore ripe, red berries, and the **rabbitbrush** now blanketed the open areas in vivid yellow. The blues and purples of July had given way to the reds and yellows of August. Over a two-month period, we had witnessed the comings and goings of many vibrant blooms. Even more new discoveries awaited us on a subsequent August visit in 2022. We found a large, healthy stand of *Sphenosciadium capitellatum* (**ranger's buttons**) at the shaded, wet north end of the iris meadow, and thriving colonies of *Epilobium canum* (**California fuchsia**) in and around rock outcroppings, both at the trailhead and near the summit.

If you've never been up the trail to the summit of Mt. Pinos, it's definitely worth doing. If you've already been up it many times, it's worth doing it again--and again! (And be sure to take along a copy of **Pam De Vries**'s **Field Guide to the Plants of the San Emigdio Mountains Region of California**.) It's a great way to spend the day, beat the summer heat, enjoy scenic vistas, and enjoy a multitude of colorful wildflowers. No two summers — in fact, no two visits — are alike on Mt. Pinos. You never know what surprises await! ✿

Left to right: *Ribes cereum* var. *cereum* (wax currant), Chula Vista trail, Mt. Pinos – 19 August 2020; *Ericameria nauseosa* (rubber rabbitbrush), Chula Vista trail, Mt. Pinos – 11 August 2021; *Sphenosciadium capitellatum* (ranger's buttons), low end of iris meadow, Chula Vista trailhead, Mt. Pinos – 4 August 2022; *Epilobium canum* (California fuchsia) and *Ericameria nauseosa* (rubber rabbitbrush), rock outcropping near Chula Vista trailhead – 4 August 2022.

You Can Help Save Los Padres National Forest!

by Lucy Clark



Photos courtesy Donna Rodriguez

Evening sky from a campground in Los Padres National Forest

PLEASE GO TO **Los Padres Forest Watch**'s website at lpfw.org, and read the terribly destructive plan for **235,000 acres of forest and chaparral lands**. It is the second article on the first page. It is cynically called an **Ecological Restoration Project**!

Nick Jensen, CNPS Conservation Program Director, wrote a letter on behalf of **CNPS** to the **USFS** (United States Forest Service) to get a longer than 30-day comment period, and it was so very effective that now **September 27th** is the last day you can make a difference! Nick reports that there are **94 listed plant species, in this huge area** that we know of. We must speak up for them...and also for the habitat of the threatened **Red Legged Frog**, for you amphibiaphiles.

From Nick:

FIRST, here are some relevant facts and background info:

1. The project aims to treat **235,000 acres forest-wide**, and will be analyzed under an **Environmental Assessment (EA)** rather than an **Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**.

2. ~48,000 acres (**only 20.75%**) **of the project are in forested habitats** and will be subject to "*Forest Health Treatments*"; **the remaining ~186,000 acres are in chaparral or grassland habitats**.

3. The forest service proposes a variety of treatment options, but it appears that the vast majority of the acreage will constitute **fuel breaks** and **defense zones** (I think this just means clearing near developed areas). **It is hard to believe how the lion's share of the project can be called "ecological restoration."**
"*Treatment methods for either category may include mechanical and hand thinning, mastication, mowing, prescribed fire, grazing treatments, and planting and seeding of buffers or along roads.*"

   They do not mention the use of **dozer lines**, however in the presentation describing the project at the 8/8 and 8/10 meetings, it showed pictures of the potential outcomes of the two trement types, the photo for the fuels reduction treatment showed a ridgetop dozer line at 17:00 minutes into the **Public Meeting #1 video** (see the video of the public meeting on the FS site).

4. Some **35K acres occur in lands with wilderness characteristics** or in inventoried roadless areas, and would receive special protections under the proposed **Central Coast Heritage Protection Act** (authored by **Rep. Salud Carbajal**).

5. We did a preliminary analysis of **potential rare plant impacts**, and the results are, quite simply, staggering:

   1. The intersect analysis grabbed any rare plant occurrence in the **CNDDB** (California Natural Diversity Database) that intersected with the treatment areas, in whole or in part — if just a sliver of the rare plant occurance (EO - Element Occurence is in the project area it appears in the analysis). That said, I would usually apply a bit of a buffer to these types of analysis to account for mapping error and indirect impacts.

There are **94** RARE PLANT SPECIES in the affected area!

Defend this Los Padres treasure just 1 hour away from Bako!

2. **This analysis only includes the rare plants we know about.** If a botanist went out and surveyed all these areas there would be many, many, more rare plant locations (including species not even on this list). Basically, the impacts could be far worse tha this analysis indicates.

3. **Our work does not include all rare plants, just the ones in the CNDDB.** There are rare plants not mapped by CDFW that occur in the area (those on Rank 4), and I will work on that analysis.

4. Summary stats: **531 total Rare Plant occurrences** of **94 taxa**. For 35 plants more than 20% of all known occurrences would potentially be affected. 12 plants are running at 50% or greater. As a point of reference, 531 occurrences is more than 1% of all mapped rare plant occurrences in the state of CA.

Our best bet is if each of you reading this writes a short note, stating that an EIS be required for such a diverse and large area to be "*restored.*" Botanists need to survey all of the areas to be "*restored*". Only if you write, will your comments on the final plan be read/accepted. That final plan response is the next and last very important step.

Forest Watch says the more letters, the more effective the opposition is! I have to confess, mine sounded like it was written by a 10 year old, but it was from my heart. I went camping last week at a **Los Padres** campground, and the 24-inch diameter Jeffrey Pines were inspiring, and it was so difficult to think of trees that old, that huge, being cut down by logging interests. Beyond their impressive beauty and smell, is their ability to take up carbon dioxide and release oxygen!

September 27...
is the last day you can make a difference!

This is a plea to you, our CNPS members to help to save this forest, which is an hour from Bako. Go!

Address is below:

Los Padres National Forest Supervisor's Office
Attention: Kyle Kinports, Forest Planner & Vegetation/Fuels Program Manager
1980 Old Mission Drive
Solvang, CA 93463

Submit via email to: kyle.kinports@usda.gov ✿

Chapter Meetings

upcoming TOPICS

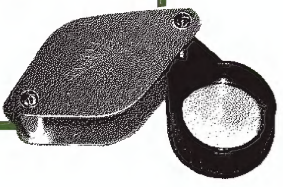
Thursday, September 15, 2022 - 7 pm
Presenters: Christina Contrereas and **Arianne Chow-Garcia**
Topic: *CSUB's Edible Garden*
Place: TBD, possibly **Larry E. Reider Education Ctr.** at **2000 K Street, Room 101,** Bakersfield, CA. Check website for any change of venue.

In-person/Hybrid Zoom meeting

All in-person chapter meetings are held the **3rd Thursday** of each month.

Meeting times:
6 –8:30 pm: 6 pm - Socializing, plant ID and gardening discussion groups, followed at 7 pm by program presentation and concluding with a short business meeting.

Currently we are open to suggestions for topics and speakers. Ideas are welcome. Contact **Paul Gipe** (*pgipe@igc.org*). ✿



California Native Plant Society

CNPS is the leader for providing reliable information on California native plants and plant conservation. Comprehensive information about California's flora and vegetation communities is available throughout the state for conservation and educational purposes. CNPS's leadership influences personal ethics and actions, as well as public policy for native plant protection.

President's Message: Jackass Clover, *Wislizenia* (Cleomaceae) Rare Species in Kern County and Elsewhere

by Rich Spjut

I HAVE RARELY COLLECTED PLANTS IN THE genus *Wislizenia*, which is interpreted in TJM2 to have only one species, *W. refracta*, divided into three subspecies, all considered herbaceous and rare, 2B.2; however, I report here that *Wislizenia* includes shrubs, not just short-lived perennials as reported in TJM2. The flowers and leaves are similar to those of bladderpod (*Isomeris arborea*), but fruits differ in their two divergent separate carpels, which at a glance collectively appear like a peanut. Plants in Kern County are annuals, < 1.5 m tall, referred to as *W. refracta* ssp. *californica*. This subspecies is known only from the Valley, occurring as far north as Sacramento. It has been rarely collected in Kern County, and apparently not recorded in any of our checklists. The CCH herbarium records have reported it from **Kern Lake Watershed** near **Greenfield** (Lyman Benson, Oct 1935), **Buena Vista Lake** (H & M Dearing, Oct 1938), **Goose Lake**, 6.8 miles north of Buttonwillow (Twisselmann, Sep 1954), **Panama Road west of Old River Road** (Twisselmann, Nov 1962), **Jerry Slough** at Tracy Ranch (Twisselmann, Oct 1968), **Jct. of I-5 and Stockdale Hwy**. (Errter, Sep 1987), and **Tule Lake** (L. Maynard Moe, Sep 2004). The former BC herbarium, now within the **Buena Vista Museum of Natural History and Science**, has one specimen — bearing a collector's signature I could not decipher (in photo of the specimen) — reportedly collected from the **Kern River Preserve** on *Atriplex* flats east of Enos Lane, which is near the junction of Highways 43 and I-5.

My first encounter with the genus *Wislizenia* was a shrub on sand dunes in a remote area of central **Baja California** along the Gulf Coast in April 1990 and again in 1994. Since Wiggins in his **Flora of Baja California** (1980) considered the genus to be strictly annuals, I thought perhaps I found a new species. Upon further investigation, I discovered that **Edward Greene** had described *W. fruticosa* as a new species from near the locality where I encountered it. His description: *"Low, compact, suffrutescent with yellowish and shiny bark on the woody parts of stem…"* is evident in the image shown below. Other interesting associated species that I noted were *Bursera microphylla, Errazurizia megacarpa, Hesperocallis* sp., *Hoffmanseggia densiflora, Horsfordia newberryi, Peucephyllum schottii, Stegnosperma watsonii*, and *Viscainoa geniculata*.

Later, I photographed another plant in California on dunes near the vicinity of **Palen Lake** during a CNPS vegetation workshop in east Riverside County, Feb 5–6, 2011. Calphotos shows plants in flower, all appearing to have erect stems from the base in contrast to basal sprawling stems in my photo from Baja California. Nevertheless, I subsequently referred to my collections of perennial plants as *W. palmeri* A. Gray, but now I revert to my earlier view that the Baja California plant should be recognized as *W. fruticosa*, and is possibly an endangered species from off-road recreational activity observed in April 1994 encroaching on the habitat where it occurs.[1] Greene, in his revision of the genus *Wislizenia* (Proc. Biol. Soc. Wash. Vol. 19: 127-132. 1906), had distinguished them as species, and differentiated *W. palmeri* A Gray from *W. fruticosa* Greene in his key among eight other species as follows:

- Valves pyriform, closely and sharply lineolate and with some elongated reticulation, the summit crowned with a circle of 5 spreading mammiform tubercles. ***W. fruticosa***

Wislizenia. fruticosa, near type locality, Baja California.

Wislizenia palmeri, vicinity of Palen Lake north of Desert Center, CA

Photos by Richard Spjut unless otherwise noted.

Inflorescence of *Wislizenia fruticosa* close-up shown in plant on preceding page on lower left.

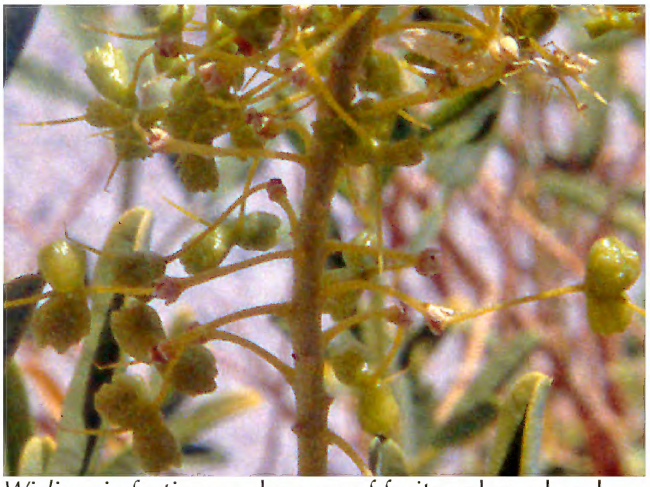
Wislizenia palmeri, near San Jose de Guaymas, Sonora.

Photo by Sue Carnahan, SEINet, Usage Rights: CC BY-NC

- Valves long, subturbinate-pyriform, strongly striate, near the summit fenestrate-reticulate, the summit with a circle of long connivent tubercles. ***W. palmeri***

Although Greene's revision of *Wislizenia* may be viewed as a splitter, he was also a lumper in regard to his treatment of bladderpod (*Isomeris arborea*), in the genus *Cleome*, *C. isomeris*. He had to change the epithet because *C. arborea* was already used for species in South America. Although currently recognized in TJM2 as *Peritoma arborea*, the name for bladderpod changed again, to *Cleomella arborea*, along with vars. *globosa*, and *angustata* (Roalson et al. 2015. Phytotaxa 205: 129-144). Of course, I continue to recognize *Isomeris*, which in a very strict sense can be supported in some of the phylogenetic trees that I have seen. ✿

[1] The expedition was mainly collecting lichens for a lichen flora of Baja California. One lichen I found interesting was the subject of separate paper: Spjut, R.W. (1995) Occurrence of *Mobergia calculiformis* (Physciaceae, Lecanorales) in the Northern Vizcaino Desert of Baja California, Mexico. In: Daniëls, F.J.A., M. Schulz, and J. Peine (eds), FlechtenFollmann: Contributions to Lichenology in Honour of Gerhard Follmann, pp. 475-482. Geobotanical and Phytotaxonomical Study Group, Botanical Institute, University of Cologne, Cologne, Germany. This is now regarded as an endangered species by the IUCN, assessment dated July 1, 2020.



Wislizenia fruticosa, close-up of fruits enlarged and cropped from the image above left.

Wislizenia palmeri close-up of fruits enlarged and cropped from corresponding image above right.

Photo by Sue Carnahan, SEINet, Usage Rights: CC BY-NC

Image courtesy of Obi Kaufmann and CNPS.org

Molok Luyuk (Walker Ridge) watercolor by Obi Kaufmann.

CONSERVATION CORNER: The What, Who, How of Protecting California Botanical Resources

Notes by Fred Chenoweth with Lucy Clark

CNPS HAS A LEGISLATIVE ANALYST THAT has been involved in promoting or opposing legislation. On the national level, "***Save Our Sequoias Act***" would create new **NEPA (National Environmental Policy Act, 1969)** exclusions in the name of fuel reduction projects aimed at Sequoia groves. **Many environmental organizations, including CNPS, oppose the bill without amendment.** Several large-scale fuel treatment projects on national forests and state property are being monitored.

On the positive side, **U.S. Sen. Alex Padilla**'s (D-Calif.) bill which includes permanent protection for ***Molok Luyuk (Walker Ridge)*** appears to be close to approval.

Sometime this year, it is expected that **a tool kit** will be available to help members become involved in addressing agencies with concerns about impacts on the environment.

California has a **goal to protect 30 percent of its lands and waters by 2030**. The recent budget secured:

- $20 million for fine-scale **vegetation mapping**
- $13 million to update the **California Natural Diversity Database (CNDDB)**.

CNPS has been active in providing the information and the legislation will help fund future work. CNPS also is developing a data base for **Important Plant Areas** to help in this endeavor.

The following is excerpted from the CNPS website:

> *The **CNPS Biodiversity Initiatives Group (BIG)**, formed last year in recognition of the active role people can take to document, support and promote California's plant biodiversity. BIG is a solutions-based team, focused on supporting communities, decision-makers and land managers with science-based guidance....*
>
> *...Conjoined crises of climate change, extinction, and affordable housing shortages present dire risks for California's native plants and all the life that depend on them. Without a focus on plant biodiversity, we risk destroying millions of acres of habitat in the name of wildfire prevention; we trade intact habitat for clean energy development; we build communities indiscriminately. We all lose if we settle on either/or when we need biodiversity, clean energy, and shelter to survive – and thrive. By understanding where biodiversity is concentrated, we can choose the right places to build and the right places to protect. By funding sustained monitoring, we can be sure we've got it right. By transforming our built landscapes, we can help heal the damage already incurred.*
>
> *— Andrea Williams,*
> *CNPS Director of Biodiversity Initiatives*

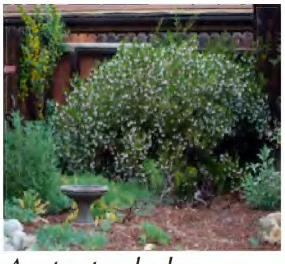
(https://www.cnps.org/conservation/protecting-californias-renowned-plant-diversity-29719)

Photo courtesy Jim Rose and CNPS.org

Walker Ridge wildflowers including yellow yarrow (*Eriophyllum lanatum*) and popcorn flower (*Cryptantha*)

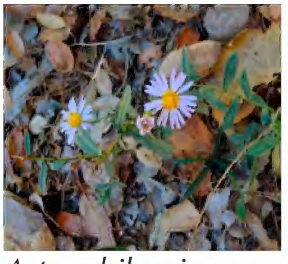
ON-LINE PLANT SALE
September 18 — 30
PLANTS AVAILABLE

		#avail	#1 price	5 gal	#5 price
Arctostaphylos Howard McMinn	Howard McMinn Manzanita	10	$10	3	$25
Asclepias fascicularis	Narrow leaf milkweed	50	$10		
Asclepias speciosa	Showy milkweed	5	$10	10	$25
Aster chilensis	California aster	50	$10		
Ceanothus Matilija Bob	California lilac Matilija Bob	50	$10		
Cercis occidentalis	Western redbud	50	$10	3	$25
Chilopsis linearis Dark Purple	Desert willow Dark Purple	50	$10	3	$25
Festuca idahoensis	Idaho fescue	20	$10		
Galvezia speciosa	Island snapdragon	50	$10		
Heteromeles arbutifolia	Toyon	50	$10	3	$25
Isomeris arboreus	Bladderpod	50	$10		
Monardella villosa	Coyote mint	50	$10		
Muhlenbergia rigens	Deergrass	50	$10		
Penstemon spectabilis	Showy penstemon	50	$10		
Ribes aureum	Golden currant	50	$10		
Salvia Bees Bliss	Sage Bees Bliss	50	$10		
Salvia Bon Bon	Sage Bon Bon	50	$10		
Salvia apiana	White sage	50	$10		
Sphaeralcea ambigua	Desert mallow	50	$10		
Verbenia lilacina De La Mina	Lilac verbena	50	$10		
Zauschneria californica	California fuchsia	50	$10		
Zauschneria cana	California fuchsia cana	50	$10		
Eriogonum fasciclatum	California buckwheat	40	$10		
Vitis Kaweah red	California grape Kaweah	10	$10		
Salvia Dara's Choice	Dara's Choice sage	10	$10		
Sambucus nigra	Western elderberry	10	$10		
Diplacus auranticus	Sticky Yellow Bush Monkeyflower	30	$10		


Arctostaphylos Howard McMinn

Asclepias fascicularis

Asclepias speciosa

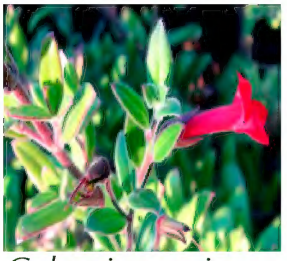

Aster chilensis

Ceanothus Matilija Bob

Cercis occidentalis

Chilopsis linearis Dark Purple

Festuca idahoensis


Galvezia speciosa

Heteromeles arbutifolia

Isomeris arboreus

Monardella villosa

Muhlenbergia rigens

Penstemon spectabilis

Ribes aureum

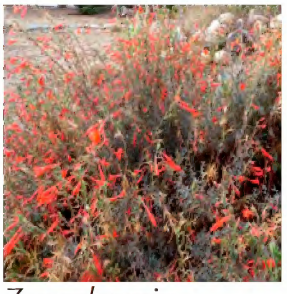
Salvia apiana

Salvia Bees Bliss

Salvia Bon Bon

Sphaeralcea ambigua

Verbenia lilacina de la Mina


Zauschneria californica

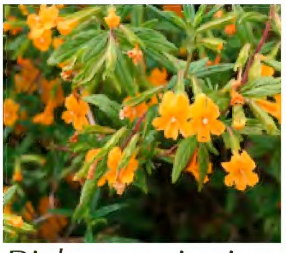
Zauschneria cana

Eriogonum fasciclatum

Vitis Kaweah red

Salvia Dara's Choice

Sambucus nigra


Diplacus aurianticus

On Line Plant Sale

by Monica Tudor

PLANT SALE TIME IS JUST AROUND THE corner! If you are like me, you are waiting for the weather to cool off before planting your natives. I have a blank space in my front yard from the **Indian Mallow** (*Abutilon palmeri*) that got yanked out when it started looking scraggly. I'm thinking either a local **buckwheat** (*Eriogonum fasciculatum polifolium*) or a **white salvia** (*Salvia apiana*). In the backyard, I finally got rid of the Bermuda grass that infested the **western aster** (*Aster occidentalis*) flowerbed. It seems like a **California fuchsia** would be nice there. *Zauschneria* PHAT from **Las Pilitas Nursery** can handle the sun and tolerates garden water, too.

The plant sale will be **on-line** this year, like last year. There will be a wide variety of plants available on line, if you have a special request, just email me at dosportas@msn.com and I'll do my best to source your request. **The sale website will be active from September 18 through September 30, 2022. Pick up day is Saturday, October 15** at my house in northwest Bakersfield, beginning at **8:30 am.** The web address for the online sale be announced on the Kern CNPS website, **https://kern.cnps.org** as well as **via an email**, so be on the lookout for that.

Volunteers are welcome! Contact me by email. Thank You! ✿

Thank You to:

... **Richard Spjut,** botanist and President of Kern Chapter for his presentation:: *Biodiversity Patterns & Drug Discovery in Natural Products*

... **Lucy Clark** for continuing to coordinate care for the Bakersfield Cactus at Toll House Ranch Nature Conservancy property.

... **Fred Chenoweth** for continuing to keep abreast of conservation concerns and activities across the state. ✿

Garden Appearances

Wait for Spring

by Sasha Honig

IN THE DOG DAYS OF A BAKERSFIELD SUMMER, spirits wilt when weeks drag by with no break in 100+ degree heat. Relief, when it comes, will probably be a dip into the 90s. Our native plant garden is holding up well but nearby traditional gardens and lawns are turning various shades of sere yellow and brown. The exception will be artificial lawns; they never die but neither do they live). We know climate change is creeping in, but most of us are optimistic enough to think the seasons will progress more or less normally and eventually spring will come. Then *ceanothus* will put on a good show and orange California poppies will cover last summer's bald spots. ✿

PLANT SALE
Sale website active:
Sept 18 — 30

Plant PICK UP:
Oct. 15, starts 8:30 am

See INSERT for list of available plants

Contacts:

President – Rich Spjut..... richspjut@gmail.com
Vice President – ..... OPEN
Coordinator – Paul Gipe ..... pgipe@igc.org
Treasurer – Monica Tudor ..... dosportas@msn.com
Secretary – Sasha Honig ..... andym5@bak.rr.com
Conservation – Fred Chynoweth..... rdmmnt18@gmail.com
Council Delegate – ..... OPEN
Field Trips – Patty Gradek..... pattygradek@gmail.com
Newsletter – Dinah Campbell ..... mimulus.memo@gmail.com
Plant Sale – Monica Tudor ..... dosportas@msn.com
Programs – Paul Gipe ..... pgipe@igc.org
Rich Spjut..... richspjut@gmail.com
Publicity – ..... OPEN
Membership – Andy & Sasha Honig..... andym5@bak.rr.com
Rare Plants – Clyde Golden..... cgold666@hotmail.com
Webmaster – Rich Spjut..... richspjut@gmail.com

The Kern Chapter of the California Native Plant Society currently meets the third Thursday of each month via Zoom:
Chapter website: *kern.cnps.org*

The California Native Plant Society is a non-profit organization dedicated to the conservation of California native plants and their natural habitats, and to increasing the understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants.

CNPS has 31 chapters throughout the state and membership is open to all persons – professional and amateur – with an interest in California's native plants. Members have diverse interests including natural history, botany, ecology, conservation, photography, drawing, hiking and gardening. As a Kern County resident, your membership includes **Flora Magazine**, a quarterly journal with interviews, conservation updates, gardening advice. **Artemesia**, CNPS's scientific journal and **The Mimulus Memo**, the Kern Chapter newsletter published quarterly.

Join CNPS or renew your membership online at *cnps.org*
Membership levels: $25, $50, $120, $500 ($25 minimum)
Go Perennial at $5/month

To **unsubscribe/subscribe** to Kern CNPS email communications members should contact: *membership@cnps.org* (916) 738-7604

CNPS-Kern Chapter
c/o Dinah Campbell, Editor
2100 Jason St.
Bakersfield, CA93309-2949
mimulus.memo@gmail.com

California Native Plant Society
KERN CHAPTER

Mimulus Memo

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